GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2570
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES THROUGH PDS
Khan Shri Sunil

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the essential commodities are being supplied through Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the number of items being currently supplied indicating per head allocation;

(c) whether the Government propose to link allocation to two children norm;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts made to check corruption in PDS godowns?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) & (b): The Central Government presently makes available to the States wheat, rice, kerosene and sugar for distribution to the consumers under the Public Distribution System as per the following scales:

Foodgrains (rice & wheat): 35 kg. per family per month

Kerosene : The scale of issue ranges between 3 ltrs to 12 ltrs per card per month and varies from State to State and even from place to place within the State.

Sugar : The levy sugar quota of all States/UTs is calculated based on minimum per capita availability of 500 grams per person per month and is restricted to BPL families only for most of the States. However in the case of Hilly states a higher per capita availability is taken into consideration in view of special circumstances prevailing in their States.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): Following measures have been taken to check corruption in the PDS:-

(i) The Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2001 has been issued on 31st August, 2001 under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with a view to curb willful adulteration, substitution, diversion, theft of stocks from the Central godown to Fair Price Shops and at the premises of the Fair Price Shops etc.

(ii) States/UTs have been asked to actively involve the Gram Panchayats in rural areas and local bodies in urban areas in the monitoring of Fair Price Shops as measure of social audit.

(iii) A model Citizen`s Charter has been issued to all the States/UTs for adoption.